

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Van Winkle *et al.*

Application No. 10/509,691

Filed: May 8, 2005

Confirmation No. 3095

For: GENERATION OF PLANTS WITH
IMPROVED DROUGHT TOLERANCE

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Examiner: Vinod Kumar

Art Unit: 1638

Attorney Reference No. 6616-72613-04

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

This document accompanies an RCE and is submitted in response to the Final Office action dated November 28, 2006. A three-month period for reply was set, making a response due on or before February 28, 2007. Applicants petition for a one month extension of time and submit the appropriate extension fee, now making a response due on or before March 28, 2007. If any additional fees are required in connection with filing this document, please charge **Deposit Account 02-4550**.

Please amend the referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5, and end with a brief **Conclusion** on page 8.

Exhibit I (Knight *et al.*, 1997; 12 pages) and **Exhibit II** (Gao *et al.*, 2004; 11 pages) are provided herewith.